

Agriculture Workgroup (AgWG)

Meeting Agenda

July, 11, 2013

9:30 AM to 3:30 PM

Joe Macknis Memorial Conference Room (Fish Shack)

EPA Chesapeake Bay Program Office

410 Severn Ave.

Annapolis, Maryland 21403

Conference Call Number: 866.299.3188, Code: 267.5715

Virtual Meeting Room: <https://epa.connectsolutions.com/agwg/>

Calendar Event Page: <http://www.chesapeakebay.net/S=0/calendar/event/19185/>

09:30	Welcome and Introductions	Coale
-------	---------------------------	-------

09:35	AgWG Meeting Minutes	Coale
-------	-----------------------------	-------

Frank Coale, Agriculture Workgroup Chair, will introduce the draft minutes from the June 20, 2013 workgroup meeting held at the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service's Annapolis Field Office for review and approval.

ACTION REQUESTED: Workgroup Participation and Recommendation

09:20	Expert Review Panel Updates	Dubin
-------	------------------------------------	-------

On behalf of the panel chairs, Mark will provide brief updates on each of the four review panels currently operating under the oversight of the workgroup.

ACTION REQUESTED: Workgroup Participation

09:40	2015 Agricultural Projection Update	Dubin
-------	--	-------

Mark will provide an update on the workgroup's recommendation to the Milestone Workgroup and the Water Quality Goal Implementation Team (WQGIT) for the 2015 projection on agricultural land use and production. The partnership's previously proposed schedule would have omitted developing the 2015 projections for the 2-Year Milestone goals with the benefit of the 2012 USDA Agricultural Census, due to be released in early 2014. The Milestone Workgroup recommended, and the WQGIT voted on July 8th, to recommend the revision of new draft 2-Year Milestones based on a new 2015 projection in early 2014 using the 2012 Census data.

ACTION REQUESTED: Workgroup Participation

09:45	Tetra Tech Technical Assistance Contract	Dubin
-------	---	-------

Mark will provide an update on the new EPA-CBPO technical assistance contract in relation to the workgroup and associated review panels.

ACTION REQUESTED: Workgroup Participation

09:50 **Draft Chesapeake Bay Agreement** **Dubin**
Mark will provide an update on the agricultural outcome proposed for the [draft Chesapeake Bay Agreement](#) under development by the Management Board. The language was adapted from the Chesapeake Bay Executive Order, and committed to implementing new conservation practices on 4 million high priority agricultural acres by 2025. The Workgroup previously recommended deleting the proposed language.

ACTION REQUESTED: Workgroup Participation

10:00 **Maryland Agricultural BMP Assessment** **York**
Dana York, Green Earth Connection, LLC, will present the Maryland Department of Agriculture's Non Cost-Shared BMP Verification Procedures Manual as part of a discussion on functional equivalent BMP data collection, reporting and verification. Functional equivalent BMPs are typically farmer implemented and do not meet USDA-NRCS standards, but may provide similar effectiveness values.

ACTION REQUESTED: Workgroup Participation and Recommendation

11:00 **Agricultural Forecasting Workshop** **Baird/Claggett**
Jim Baird, American Farm Trust's Mid-Atlantic Director, and Peter Claggett, USGS-CBPO, will summarize participant feedback and practical outcomes from the Agricultural Forecasting Track of the "Building A Better Bay Model" workshop. Future forecasting is a critical tool for the Chesapeake Bay Program (CBP) Partners. Short-term forecasts are used to inform the development of 2-year milestones and measure progress. Long-term "future scenarios" can be used to assess the nutrient and sediment reducing potential of new and innovative practices and technologies beyond those currently considered in the suite of Bay models.

ACTION REQUESTED: Workgroup Participation

12:00 **Lunch Break**

01:00 **Building a Better Bay Model Matrix** **Dubin**
Mark will present an initial draft matrix of the recommendations collected as a result of the Building a Better Bay Model workshop. The draft matrix is based on the suggestions provided during the June meeting of the workgroup.

ACTION REQUESTED: Workgroup Participation and Recommendations

01:30 **Agricultural BMP Verification Matrix** **Coale**

Frank will lead a partnership discussion on continuing the development of the draft agricultural BMP verification matrix based on the guidance received from the BMP Verification Committee, the Transparency Subgroup, and the work of an ad hoc subgroup.

ACTION REQUESTED: Workgroup Participation and Recommendations

03:00 **Partner Updates** **Coale**
Frank will open the floor to updates from the partnership.

ACTION REQUESTED: Workgroup Participation

03:15 **Review of AgWG Recommendations** **Giese**
Emma Giese, CRC Staffer, will review the draft notes from the meeting for comment.

ACTION REQUESTED: Workgroup Participation

03:30 **Adjourn**

Conference Call Materials:

Participants are requested to review the materials posted on the AgWG webpage for the meeting. Some documents may be posted just prior to the meeting, so please check back.

Agenda Schedule:

The meeting agenda is reflective known information at the time of publication and may be subject to change due to other circumstances. Additional agenda items may be added if time is available.